Amendments to the Specifications:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 4, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Referring now to FIG. 4 there is disclosed an actuation system having a flywheel mechanism for controlled release of the energy stored in the spring and thus actuation of the instrument. Instrument 310, as with prior embodiments, is designed to provide actuation to associated instrument 310. Instrument 310 generally includes a handle body 314 having an elongated tubular member 316 extending distally therefrom. It should be noted that in all embodiments disclosed herein, elongated tubular member may be mounted for rotation on handle body 314. A drive rod 318 is movably mounted in handle body 314 and elongated tubular member 316 and is powered by an energy storage system 320. Energy storage system 320 includes a cylinder 322 having a spring 324, such as a die spring, positioned between a bottom cap 326 and a piston 328. A piston rod 330 is affixed to piston 328. An energizing handle 332 is pivotally mounted about point A to handle body 314 at bracket 334. A lower end 336 of piston rod 330 is pivotally mounted to energizing handle 332 and pivots at point B and rides in a slot E in energizing handle 232 as shown. Energy storage system 320 also includes upper piston rod end 328 338 attached to an L-rack 340 having L-rack teeth 342. Large and small gear wheels 344 and 346, having gear teeth 350 and 348, respectively, function together with drive teeth 352 on drive rod 318 in the matter described above. To power drive rod 318 in response to release of the energy stored in spring 324.

Appl. No. 10/550,469

Amendment dated December 14, 2007

Reply to Office Action Mailed September 14, 2007

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 14, line 15, with the following rewritten paragraph:

It is further envisioned that the input action to store energy may be motor driven, such that energy may commence being transferred into the spring during the period of time when a cartridge or disposable loading unit is being replaced, or even earlier, as right after the previous firing. Because the time period of transfer of energy from the motor 480, shown schematically in FIG. 3, to the spring is extended, a smaller, lighter motor and battery 482 (or power supply) may be used.